

News Release



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State Parks Names New Chief For Statewide Aquatic Safety

SANTA CRUZ – California State Parks today named Alex Peabody, a long-time Santa Cruz County resident and Lifeguard Supervisor for the Department, as the new Aquatic Specialist for California State Parks.

As the Department's Aquatic Specialist, Peabody will oversee the statewide aquatic safety training program, assist with aquatic related policy development, provide coordination of the statewide junior lifeguard program curriculum, provide equipment recommendations and serve as agency liaison for aquatic related organizations.

"This is a wonderful opportunity to continue to serve the public and work to address aquatic safety issues throughout the state park system," said Peabody.

Peabody started his career as a seasonal lifeguard at the age of 18 in Santa Cruz. He later served as a permanent, full time lifeguard in Southern California before transferring back to Santa Cruz, where he has served as Lifeguard Supervisor.

Peabody has been a visible presence in the Santa Cruz community, where he has been responsible for 24 miles of coastline, a staff of 45 seasonal guards, several junior lifeguard programs and deployment responsibility for the department's "Surfwatch" rescue boat.

"Alex's skills, knowledge and professionalism will be a great asset to the department's statewide aquatic program" said Randy Sederquist, State Parks' Superintendent for Public Safety. "The leadership he has demonstrated over the years now will be of great benefit to people throughout the state."

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